



Wednesday 1st July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid-19 summer arrangements

We hope that you are all keeping safe and well. Our thoughts and prayers are with families and friends who have suffered bereavement during this challenging time.

As a collective of Sunderland schools across the city we would like to extend our thanks to all of our school families for their support and hard work during this current crisis, whether accessing school at home or on site. It has been our pleasure to be able to support critical workers in their response to COVID-19. We would like to share our appreciation to our staff, for their dedication throughout this time. While working with our key worker families and prioritised year groups, it is fantastic to witness our schools slowly and safely coming back to a new normal.

In consultation with Sunderland Local Authority, and where appropriate, the Catholic Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle and the Church of England Diocese of Durham & Newcastle, schools will close, to all children, for the summer holidays on Friday 17th July 2020. Northern Saints Primary School will reopen to children on Thursday 3rd September 2020. Sunderland Local Authority and partners are aiming to provide summer activities throughout the city.

As the new guidance comes into place for England on 4th July 2020, please remember that the advice is to aim to stay two metres apart, but, 'where it is not possible to stay two metres apart, guidance will allow people to keep a social distance of 'one metre plus'. This means staying one metre apart, plus mitigations which reduce the risk of transmission.' <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> (June 23rd 2020).

We look forward to joining together as a whole school community in the autumn term, implementing the new Department for Education guidance. Children, families and staff need to be refreshed for the new academic year and the regular, plus additional, demands that this pandemic brings to our school communities.

We are promised further guidance from the DfE by the end of this week about what arrangements must be put into place for September. However, it is presently our understanding that school will be open full time to all year groups in the autumn term. Something we will all look forward to. As always, when I have further information, I shall write to you again.

Enjoy your summer, remember to socially distance and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Jones'.

Mr J A Jones

HEADTEACHER